

From the Superintendent

November 2014

s we complete the first nine weeks of the school year, I want to congratulate all of our students and their families on the terrific start of school we have enjoyed. I believe the seriousness and enthusiasm with which our students arrive early in the school year dictates their success for the rest of the year. This excitement and achievement will grow and continue only when you as parents remain actively involved in and supportive of your children's education.

In the spirit of community and parent involvement here at Jewell School, November and December are very busy months here with many activities for our students and the school community. I hope that parents and community members will participate in some of these upcoming activities; a few are highlighted below:

- 1. On November 20, we are hosting a community Thanksgiving Celebration during lunchtime. Please check out the ad with more specific details included on page 12 of this magazine.
- 2. December 18 is the Annual School-wide Holiday Music performance. Please put that date on your calendar and watch for more information as December arrives.
- 3. Our Middle School girls' basketball team has already started their competitive season and has games throughout the months of November and December. They are fun to watch as they work hard and are learning the fundamentals of the game quickly.
- 4. Beginning the week after Thanksgiving break, our Men and Women's High School Basketball Teams begin their season. We welcome Mark Fick back to coach both teams.

This magazine includes a page of explanation and introduction to the new state assessment tests that our students will be taking later this year. These tests, called Smarter Balanced, or often referred to as SBAC, have several similarities to and yet significant differences from the previous OAKS test that we have administered to the students the last several years. Our staff is working hard on learning the new system so that we can have our students well prepared when the testing occurs. Last spring our students in grades 3-8 participated in a pilot of the Smarter Balanced mathematics test. Those pilot opportunities gave both the students and staff an initial sense of the rigor and style of the test. The computer lab has upgraded computers as necessitated by the technical requirements for optimal testing. Teachers are working on correlating our curriculum to align with the Common Core State Standards that are reflected in the Smarter Balanced tests. Principal Scott is coordinating this testing transition and making sure that staff have necessary training to implement the new testing. Each monthly edition of *The Jay* will include one page of information regarding the Smarter Balanced Testing and/or the Common Core State Standards curriculum.

I hope you enjoyed the October edition of The Jay. What a wonderful opportunity to see the talent of our students while receiving valuable information about our school. I am very proud of the initial edition and excited about the future of the Graphic Arts Program. Kudos go to Mr. Anderson and Ms. Morrison and their students.

Alice Hunsaker Jewell School District Superintendent

From the Principal

Smarter Balanced Assessments

Beginning this spring our 3rd through 8th and 11th grade students will be taking the Smarter Balanced assessments in reading and math. The Smarter Balanced assessments are a key part of implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and preparing all students for success in college and careers. Here are some common questions and answers surrounding CCSS and Smarter Balanced assessments.

- 1. Why is my child taking new assessments this year?
 - New standards and assessments are part of Jewell School's plan to help all students graduate high school prepared for success.
 - The Smarter Balanced assessments are a key part of Oregon's efforts to implement the Common Core State Standards and prepare all students for success in college and careers.
 - Smarter Balanced assessments were "field tested" in spring 2014 and will be fully operational in the 2014–15 school year.
 - The Smarter Balanced assessments provide an academic checkup for students by measuring real-world skills like critical thinking and problem solving. In addition, they provide real-time information during the year to give teachers and parents a better picture of where students are succeeding and where they need help.
 - These assessments will replace existing tests, and offer significant improvements over tests of the past, including new types of questions and performance tasks that require students to apply a variety of skills to complete complex tasks that will prepare them for college and the workplace.
- 2. What will the assessments cover?
 - The Smarter Balanced assessments measure real-world skills in English and math, such as analytical reading, persuasive writing, and problem solving.
 - Beginning in 2015, in addition to providing composite scores in those two subjects, score reports will provide information on student performance in the following areas:
 - -English: reading, writing, listening, and research
 - -Math: concepts and procedures; problem solving and modeling/data analysis; and communicating reasoning
 - Parents can access complete practice tests in English and math for grades 3 through 8 and 11 at http://oaksportal.org/.

3. How long will the assessments take?

• These tests are not timed, but we estimate that the English assessment will take 3.5 (for elementary students) to 4 hours (for high school students) and the math assessment will take 2.5 hours (for elementary students) to 3.5 hours (for high school students). In addition, students will have a brief classroom activity to introduce the topic of the performance task. Testing will occur in multiple sessions, so students will typically spend 1 to 2 hours per day on the assessments over several days.

Mike Scott Jewell School Principal

Bee Works

By Grace Semerjian

A "white" room was saturated with a smell of musty sweetness and oil. It was a garage in the countryside with all the tools and machinery strewn about. Bikes are hung up on the wall; the floor stained with all sorts of fluids. Tables are just as stained as the ground is with clutter added on top of it. A large, classy automobile sits amidst all of the mess, though dismembered. Everything seems to be dead at that very moment, what with the sense of death everywhere from the oil and all of the lopped off machine parts. Not all is still though, there is a definite buzzing sound, whirring; obviously a sound of something functioning and working hard. There are ten or so three story bee boxes, filled with the obedient workers, protecting their home, supporting it, nourishing it, trying to survive. In the other half of the rectangular shop they work, for their homes.

Outside of the garage there is much to be done, many tasks that are yet to be accomplished. There are all sorts of flora that needs tending to: quinces, cherries, apples, chestnuts. An open hill of green lay next to



the tin building, surrounded by the smell of spring and blooming trees, shrubs and flowers. A man emerges before the green on top of the hill with an accomplice; a smaller human, a child. With careful steps they come so not to topple over because they are all suited up with

protection, ready an inspection of the Queen's colony. The smaller one isn't as sure of what's happening as the larger is, moving like more of a curious bird than a human, slightly apprehensive. The man utters some words of consolation as they walk, "It's fine, you're all suited up dear." The smaller one nods with a quick bobbing motion, but is still wary of the actions that are to transpire. Both of them have now reached the broken automobile, searching the tables near them for the proper tool needed for the inspection. Then the smaller one's eyes open up with recognition under the thin holed yellow netting, finding the thin, sharp piece of metal needed for the job. The man nods in approval, now ready for the procedure to begin.

They walk up to an outlier of the bee boxes. Using the tool that was found in the chaotic building, he pries open the occupied containment filled with the bursting colonization. Before their eyes lies a mummified rodent. It appears to be larger than the actual size of the deceased animal, that was most likely a mouse. The wrapping is a reddish brown color, though there is no odor of death near. The bees are still buzzing about doing their thing when the man calmly explains, "They killed it. Attacked the intruder with venom and then enveloped the little bugger with lots of propolis." He then picks up the bundle and breaks it in half, cut perfectly with no remnants sticking out and dry all the way through. The smaller one steps back from the crime scene, and mutters a solemn "Cool..." The man is now intrigued by his claim, having learned it from the books and now having the opportunity to see it in real life.

The phenomenon is ogled by the man, having put his time and energy into the collection of hon-

ey throughout his long life. He had worked side by side with the little companions for the majority of his human life and now on this day with his last kin next to him he had witnessed the true power of the little insects. He ushers the small child to come near him, holding the corpse out proudly for the whole world to see. The child reluctantly edges towards him, still imagining the possible outcomes the "flying spiders" (as imagined by the child at that time of her life, being frightened by the idea of stung and then wrapped up in a brownish goo that kills all sorts of infections and whatnot) all around the two of them, not sure what they are capable of. The father proudly shows off the discovery, explaining how nature is something that man should embrace and relish.

"Nature is more powerful than you think," the man says, "Man can only do so much, you just have to resort to good ol' nature sometimes ya know...nature is the best medicine for man." The child had been intently listening to what the father had to say, trying to comprehend the new words and their meaning in her small life. Then in the distance, beyond the vast green hill is a call of lunch. The mother stomps in to view yelling about the temperature of the food currently and how before the heat escapes, that both of them should, "march their butts over to the table." Obediently both of the bee admirers trudge on back, eager to consume some of nature's wealth.

ChromeBooks give Jewell students a technology boost

"These are really neat!" Jewell junior high student Chase Swearingen said about the new Acer

ChromeBooks distributed to his class. "You can do pretty much anything on them. I like to type on them for language arts and social studies," he said. Jewell School isn't the first school district in the area to check out Chromebooks to its students. Astoria and Warrenton school districts have both tried to use Google's version of the laptop, with varying degrees of success.

"There was little to no success at Astoria," according to former Astoria High School student, Tristin Alderson. "We had the beta version of the Chromebook. They were a source of entertain-

ment and nothing more," he said. Google gave Astoria

High School over 400 Chromebooks, enough for one for each student. Many of them broke in the first few months, however.

What makes Jewell School's Chromebook program different? In the first place, the Chromebook has grown up—a lot. The current Chromebooks that Jewell School purchased, are made by Acer and come with a two year warranty. They are much more robust than the first Chromebooks. Google Drive, with its accompanying apps, Google Docs and Google Sheets (and many others), make the Google universe quite complete for anyone using the Chromebooks. Gone are the days when the student or teacher were dependent on Microsoft or Apple. And with cloud storage, anybody with an Internet connection can be quite happy with a Chromebook.

But there's the rub. There are a few Jewell students who do not have reliable Internet access at home, so it makes things difficult when you have a computer that is dependent on a fast connection. Unlike Microsoft Office programs like Word and Excel, you cannot use Google apps without a connection. In essence, the Google Chromebook becomes a brick unless it is plugged into Wi-Fi somewhere. Why then did Jewell go with Chromebooks instead of an inexpensive laptop?

Price, for one thing. Chromebooks are about half the price of even the cheapest Window-based laptops and a quarter of the price of the cheapest Mac-Book. Secondly, the Chromebooks have strong security. It is easier to block out unwanted sites on a Chromebook than on comparable Windows or Apple machines.

According to Jewell technology coordinator Joan Harding, 30 Chromebooks were initially purchased, and that didn't quite cover the amount needed.

However, a number of students opted for the older mini-Windows laptops that the school already had, so between those and the new machines, every junior high student has a personal computer to take home and use in the classroom. "There were a few parents who didn't want to sign the consent form," Harding said. "It costs \$300 to replace these and some parents didn't want to be responsible for paying for them."

While Chromebooks cannot run top tier programs like Adobe Photoshop or InDesign, this shouldn't matter to junior high students who mostly

need them for everyday school tasks.



Shop class creates useful items for students, staff

The industrial arts program is very active this year with the addition of Mr. David Brandon as the shop teacher. Besides various levels of wood shop, Mr. Brandon teaches Auto-CAD and welding. Believing that shop should be both useful and fun, Brandon asked teachers what his classes could make that would help out their classes or other projects. So far the shop students have made a bookshelf and heavy duty hangers for the classroom in the shop class itself, sandwich boards for Mr. Pederson's Columbia River Symphony, and a large wooden box to hold the forestry class's equipment. His younger students are making Christmas gift's like cutting boards that allow students to get familiar with a variety of different tools before they take on more challenging projects.

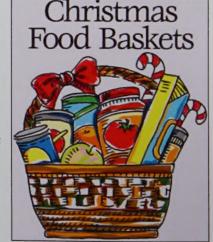


Christmas food and gift basket project

If your family is in need of a Christmas meal box or gifts for your children, please pick up a request form at Jewell School Office, Baker's Store, or the Nehalem Valley Community Church after Oct. 9. Form deadline is Nov. 20 so we can purchase food at a discounted price. Please call the number below if you are unable to get a request form.

Resources are limited, so families with children and elderly residents in need will be given priority. Residents in Birkenfeld Fire. District need to contact the Mist-Birkenfeld Helping Circle or Birkenfeld Fire Dept. for their area program.

Can you help? Adopt a family by providing a Christmas meal box; get a tag from the Giving Trees at Jewell School or Baker's Store to provide a gift. Donate a turkey, or donate funds to help our community effort for meals and gifts not provided through the Giving Trees. (Make checks to: NVCC or Christmas Food Baskets. A tax receipt will be mailed to you.) Mail to: Christmas Giving Program, 76593 Hwy 202, Birkenfeld, 97016. For more information or questions, call Bev Hopkins at 755-2312.



Graphic design class starts new businesses

The Jewell School graphics design class has started two new businesses that are available to the public. Falcon Graphics will do design, advertising and print work, while Studio 119 Photography will do everything from family photography to senior photography and product shots.

Studio 119 is taking the student and staff photos for Jewell School this year, as well as the sports photos. The graphic design class is printing calendars, the yearbook, the newsletter, as well as other work for the school and community. If you would like a price list, please call Don Anderson at 503-739-0777.

Jewell School music students selected for honor band 2015

The Oregon Music Educators Association (OMEA) District #3 leadership is proud to announce that eleven students from the Jewell School District have been chosen to take part in the 2015 regional Honor Band event in St. Helens, Oregon. This year's Honor Bands will feature music performed by approximately 250 of the finest high school and middle school musicians from within and outside the Clatsop County area schools. These outstanding student musicians have been selected for participation in the event by their band director, and the concert put forth is a culmination of two days of intense rehearsals with guest clinicians. Congratulations are in order for the following students:

- ** Becca Thurston (Euphonium -- MS)
- ** Justice Menuey (Euphonium -- MS)
- ** Brandon Malone (Percussion -- MS)
- ** Delrey Chronister (Percussion -- MS)
- ** Sage Didlake (Alto Saxophone -- HS)
- ** Trystan Silva (Clarinet -- HS)
- ** Gabi Morales (Clarinet -- HS)
- ** Rachel Stahly (Flute -- HS)
- ** Grace Semerjian (Percussion -- HS)
- ** Ben Stahly (Trombone -- HS)
- ** Emma Guillen (Trumpet -- HS)



The culminating concerts for both the middle school and high school honor bands will take place on January 10th, 2015 (Saturday), at St. Helens High School in the afternoon. Please stay in contact with the Jewell School music program website: http://jewellschoolbands.weebly.com for the latest up to date concert time and information.

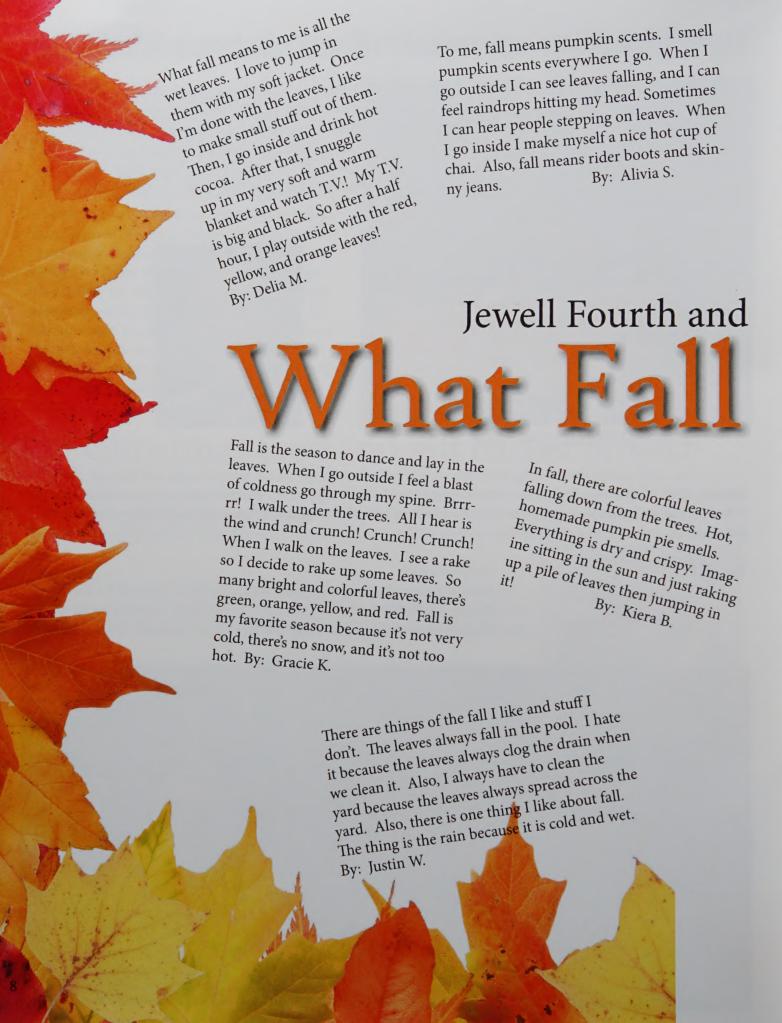
Thank you,

Cory Pederson
Director of Bands/General Music (K12)

Phone: (503) 836-2198

E-Mail: coryp@jewell.k12.or.us





Well, when it's fall, there are colors everywhere. I see brown mud and a colorful arrangement of leaves. The leaves come in different shades of golden, red, orange, brown, and green. Some are multi-colored. I can hear and smell the wind, and I can hear I can feel the cold wind upon my face and I something to hear, smell, see, or feel and that I can hear is what makes fall so magnificent.

Fall, the time of beginnings and ends, where the vibrant and bright colors of spring and summer fade to the more calming colors of fall such as orange, and mahogany. And you can hear the red, brown, and mahogany. And you can hear the vistling leaves instead of the buzzing of wasps and rustling leaves instead of the buzzing of wasps are rustling leaves instead of the suzzing of wasps and pleases (most of the time). Plus, there are some really leaves (most of the time). Plus, there are some in the first days of amazing days in fall. For example: Thanksgiving, amazing days in fall. For example: Thanksgiving, amazing days in fall starts. But no matter what hap school are when fall starts. But no matter what hap pens during fall it will always be one of my favorite pens during fall it will always be one of my favorite seasons.

Fifth Grade Students

Means to Me

Fall means to me that it gets cold, and I don't like it. But I do like Halloween.

Also, I like jumping in the piles of leaves.

I love to hear the creek in the fall. I do pretty.

By: Brenna S.



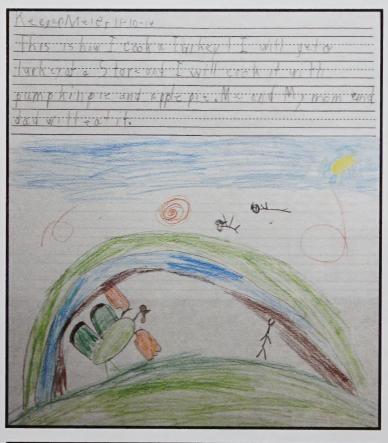
Fall, allergies...yuck! To me, fall is awesome but at the same time it is terrible. The good part is playing outside in the messy mud. Also, it means Halloween and Halloween is one of my top 3 holidays! I love being and the loween is one of my top 3 holidays! I love being and the loween is one of my top 3 holidays! I love being and the loween is one of my top 3 holidays! I love the bad part is not all jump and slide in the slimy smooth muck. The bad part is ALLERGIES. I hate the sneezing, and sniffling and of all itches. I absolutely love the crunch, crunch, crunch hate all itches. I absolutely love the crunch, feet. I also hate all itches. I absolutely have it so easy crawling across the the SPIDERS! They have it so easy crawling dry forest floor. Uhhhhh! When do the allergies end? I have forest floor. Uhhhhhh! When do the allergies end?

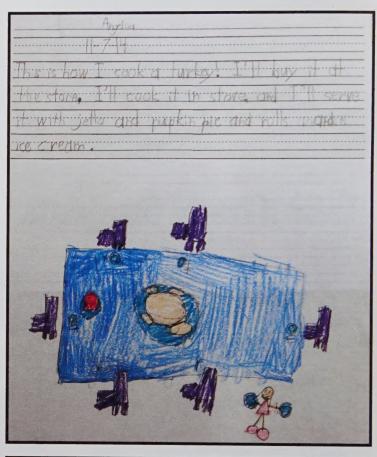
I love fall because I can feel the leaves crumple under my feet and I hear the sound of the autumn breeze flowing through my caramel hair. The sun bursts through the sky and into my hazel eyes. As I blink, I see a pumpkin patch full of bright colored objects. As I touch the smooth surface of the pumpkin my eyes get occupied on a small spider crawling up the stem of the round pumpkin. As I stand up to walk away I see a fawn sitting on the warm grass so I walk slowly and then I see a butterfly. It lands on my nose. The deer hears me sniffle and the deer slowly gets up and By: Fern H. walks away.

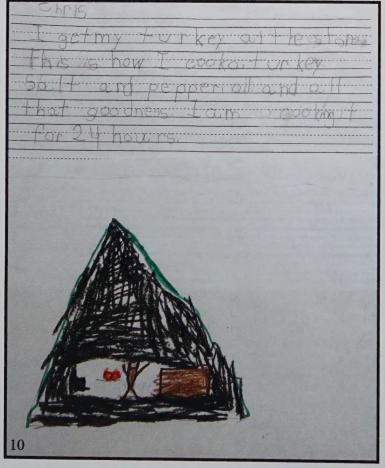


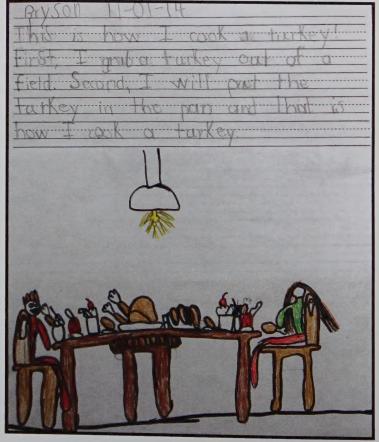
How to Cook a Turkey

By the Jewell First Grade Class

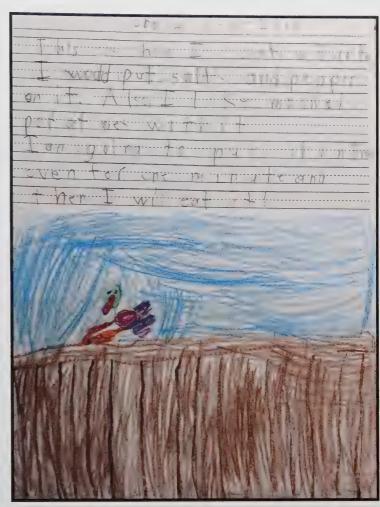


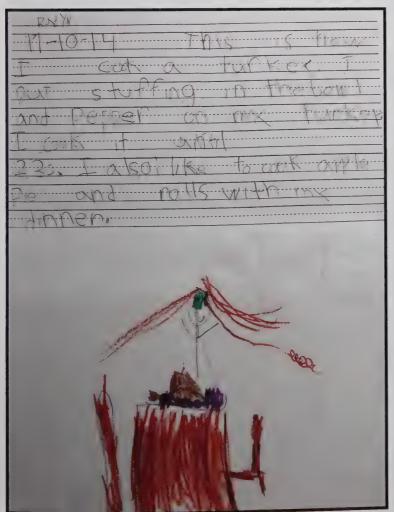


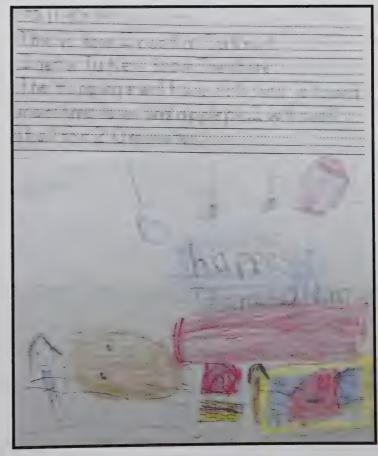












Where's Mr. Bloker?

By Heidi Hollenbach

Our favorite math teacher, Mr. Bloker, a member of the National Guard, went to El Paso, Texas, for two weeks. He was attending the Sergeant Major's academy, located in Fort Bliss, Texas. He has been working on this course for the last two years. The first part of the course is distance learning (web based with papers). Every six months, Mr. Bloker had a series of online lessons to complete along with tests, and one 8-10 page research paper to write. Mr. Bloker completed more than 600 hours of classes during the last two years.

Mr. Bloker is now attending the final phase, which is the residence course. Mr. Bloker is in a class with 12 other students, learning about systems and tools available at the bat-



talion level (a battalion is a unit comprised of three to five companies). They spend most of their time discussing leadership topics like influences on leadership relationships, negotiation, causes and signs of toxic leadership, etc. He will also be learning more

about the jobs above his current assignment, the Command Sergeant Major or a combined arms battalion (two mechanized infantry companies, two tank companies, a headquarters unit with snipers, mortars, scouts, forward observers, medics, administrative personnel, a support company with truck drivers, cooks and mechanics). The highest enlisted (not a commissioned officer— captains, majors, generals, etc.) rank is Command Sergeant Major. Jobs that are above Mr. Bloker's position include Brigade and Division Command Sergeants Major (Oregon only has Brigade sized elements— a brigade is 3-5 battalions with 1500-4000 soldiers.)

Mr. Bloker has a hard job. From serving our country to teaching us math lessons, he's always there. And for that, the Jewell students, staff and community members would like to thank him for his dedication to our country and school.

Wonder what the weather is like at Jewell School?

We now have a weather station! Go to the Jewell School Website:

www.jewell.k12.or.us

and check it out!

Don't get caught out in the cold!

Jewell School Invites

The Community

to come join us for a

THANKSGIVING LUNCH

Thursday, November 20

Lunch Schedule:

PK-K: 11:20

1st - 2nd: 11:30 3rd-5th: 11:40

Middle School: 12:00

High School: 12:30

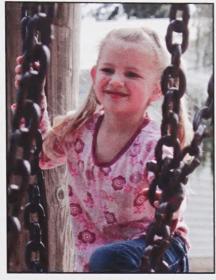
Everyone is welcome for this complimentary lunch!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

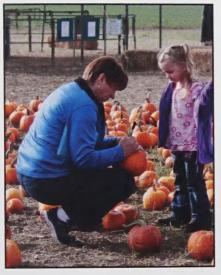


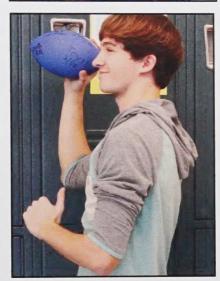
November Photographs























JEWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

83874 HIGHWAY 103 JEWELL, OR 97138 PHONE (503) 755-2451 FAX (503) 755-0616

Alice Hunsaker SUPERINTENDENT Mike Scott PRINCIPAL/AD Brian Meier SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

November 10, 2014

Position: Head Middle School Boys Basketball Coach

Qualifications:

- 1. Must have an understanding of student safety and proper training for competitive basketball.
- 2. Ability to pass a background and criminal history check.
- 3. Must possess and maintain a valid First Aid Card for specific assignments.
- 4. Bloodborne Pathogen Training/Hepatitis B Shot series/Training as designated by the District.

Performance Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Principal/AD, performs a variety of tasks; train students using safe and strenuous exercise, teach students based upon the guidelines of the Jewell Athletic Policies, deal with minor First Aid situations that may occur, and keep administration, parents, and public informed about student progress and achievement.

All employees must maintain a professional attitude and demeanor.

Other comparable duties as assigned.

Base Salary:

5.5% of the base

Benefits:

N/A

Start Date:

January 5, 2015

Closing Date:

Open until November 17, 2014

Contact:

Jewell School Principal at 503-755-2451

What makes a good team?

By Moira Hammerberg

With our lady jays heading districts we began to wonder what makes a great team. There is no way guarantee a team is successful but there are a lot of different things that add up to make a good team. Having the right mix of trust, ambition, and encouragement among your team members is crucial.

The first thing your team will need is mutual respect. Having respect for each other and the goals you each have is very important. A team that has respect for each other will be able to move past conflict towards resolution and completion of the goal. Something that is also very important no "finger pointing".

You always hear "mine!" being yelled back and forth on either side of the court. Communication is a very important part of any team. Not only do you need

to communicate on the court but off as well. There is nothing more important than a team that can communicate and know exactly who's doing what and when they're doing it.

A team also needs to be able to get along, your team mates and your coach should be like a second family. You should be able to rely on your team mates to be there for you through thick and thin even when the season is over. Lastly, to be successful, each team mate must do their part. Just like a well oiled machine, you need every single piece to make it work.

We are so proud of everything our volleyball girls did, they worked together made it all the way to districts. We couldn't ask anything more from our team, and we are so excited to see what they have in store for next year.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

NOV 17	Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m Library
	MSGBBX vs. NKN @ Home 4:00 p.m.
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NOV 19 LATE START

MSGBBX @ Clatskanie 4:00 p.m.

NOV 26 Half-Day Release @ Noon

NOV 27-28 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break DEC 1 MSGBBX @ Rainier 4:00 p.m.

DEC 3 LATE START

MSGBBX vs. Warrenton @ Home 4:00 p.m.

DEC 5-6 VBBX Vernonia Tournament Times: TBA

DEC 8 MSGBBX @ Vernonia 4:00 p.m.

DEC 9 Drug & Alcohol Awareness Assembly Grades 6-12 @ 1:10 p.m.

DEC 10 LATE START

MSGBBX @ Warrenton 4:00 p.m.

DEC 11 Holiday Music Program 7:00 p.m.

DEC 12-13 VBBX Damascus Tournament Time: TBA DEC 13 PTO Breakfast with Santa 9:00-11:00 a.m.

DEC 15 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Library

MSGBBX vs. NKN @ Home 4:00 p.m.

DEC 16 VBBX vs. Country Christian @ Home 5:30 & 7:00 p.m.

DEC 17 LATE START

MSGBBX vs. NKN @ Home 4:00 p.m.

DEC 19 Half-Day Release @ Noon

DEC 22- JAN 2 Winter Break (School Resumes Monday January 5)

